

[English]

Excise Revenue in Andhra Pradesh

2997. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the excise revenue has either remained static or decreased for certain items, during the last three years, in the excise collectorates in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to improve the excise collections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARTHAKUR): (a) to (c). The Central Excise revenue from the three Collectorates in Andhra Pradesh has shown an increasing trend during the last three years. However, among major commodities, there has been some fall in revenue from petroleum products mainly because of market conditions.

Jute Packaging for Cement

2998. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any guidelines for packaging of a certain percentage of total cement production in jute bags;

(b) Whether any complaints have been received regarding the flouting of such Government directives by the Cement companies all over the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total cement production in the country that was sold in Jute packaging during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) the companies that erred in compli-

ance with the Government orders/directives/guidelines during the above period; and

(f) the action, the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f). The vires of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Co. modities) Act, 1987 has been challenged in the Supreme Court where the matter is subjudice. The Supreme Court has advised the Government not to pass any further order to the detriment of the petitioners till the disposal of the case.

[Translation]

Remittances of foreign exchange

2999. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount received under the various provisions of the Remittances of Foreign Exchange and Investment in foreign Exchange Bonds (Immunities and Exemptions) Act, 1991 till January 31, 1992, separately;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any guidelines for the proper use of this money;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to prevent misuse of the funds received under this Act for illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARTHAKUR): (a) According to a report dated 5.3.1992, a sum of US\$ 2.46 billion equivalent to about Rs. 6400 crores has

been collected under the two Schemes, namely the Remittances in Foreign Exchange (Immunities) Scheme, 1991 and India Development Bonds Scheme, 1991.

(b) and (c). Funds will be utilised as per the Government policy in this regard.

(d) Necessary safeguards to prevent the misuse of funds have been provided in the Remittances of Foreign Exchange and Investment in Foreign Exchange Bonds (Immunities & Exemptions) Act 1991 itself.

[English]

Financial Assistance to NTC

3000. SHRI S.B. THORAT:
SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-
DAL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide financial support to National Textile Corporation to meet the working capital requirements of the company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the financial position of NTC is so bad that there are no funds to pay even the salaries to its employees;

(d) if so, whether any modernisation package for National Textile Corporation has been approved by the Government for the year 1992-93;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have approved the proposals to raise funds for modernisation plan by sale of land and machinery; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For the financial year 1992-93, the Government has proposed a budget provision of Rs. 54.80 crores as loans to National Textile Corporation for meeting its working capital requirements.

(c) Since the budget provision for cash losses reimbursement is lesser than, last year some of the NTC mills may face difficulty in this regard.

(d) and (e). Modernisation of NTC mills is an ongoing process and carried out with the assistance of Financial Institutions. Promoters' contribution in the shape of Margin money is provided by the Government. The budget provision proposed for modernisation for 1992-93 is Rs. 20 crores.

(f) and (g). The National Textile Corporation has been permitted to sell land surplus to its requirements in order to raise resources, subject to certain guidelines and such sale is monitored by a Committee constituted by the Government.

Sale of machinery is subject to laid down procedure and does not require approval of the Ministry of Textiles.

Recommendations of Arun Singh Committee

3001. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to consider some of the recommendations made by the Arun Singh Committee;

(b) if so, the details of those recommendations; and

(c) the steps taken to implement them?